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*UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS*

By action of the corporation the chair of the theory and practise of medicine at Yale University will hereafter be known as the John Slade Ely professorship of the theory and practise of medicine. This action was made possible by the gift to the university of \$50,000 by an unknown donor for the purpose of establishing a memorial to Professor Ely, '81S., who filled this chair from 1897 until his death, February 7, 1906. Dr. George Blumer at present holds this professorship.

It is announced that Hamilton College will receive a bequest of \$50,000 from Mrs. Annie P. Burgess, of New York City, who died about three years ago, leaving for educational and charitable purposes upward of \$200,000. This included \$10,000 to Columbia University and to Barnard College for scholarships. After making some other specific bequests she left the remainder of her estate to Hamilton College, Columbia University and Barnard College.

AMONG the bequests left by the late Mrs. Emma Cummings, of East Hampton, L. I., are \$25,000 to Dartmouth College and \$25,000 to Bowdoin College.

THE late Dr. Charles H. Roberts, of Highland, N. J., in his will provided for the founding of five scholarships of \$240 annually at Cornell University.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY has received a gift of \$150,000 for the endowment of the University Chapel. The fund is to be known as the Edward Wigglesworth Memorial Fund.

MARYVILLE COLLEGE, Tennessee, has secured an endowment of \$227,000, of which \$50,000 is from the General Educational Board and \$50,000 from Mr. Andrew Carnegie.

THE University of Michigan has acquired by gift of an alumnus, and from the city of Ann Arbor, a tract of land of about ninety acres to serve as a botanical garden and arboretum. This land has an exceptional variety of soil, elevation and exposure, including a border of over one half mile on the Huron River, easily accessible from the

campus. The Woman's League of the university has purchased a seven-acre tract of land, convenient of access, which will be developed as an athletic field for the women of the university. Another gift is of about fifteen hundred acres of land, lying along the shores of Douglas lake in Cheboygan county. This land will serve as the site for the summer engineering camp, and its topography, including forest and open, land and water, various elevations, etc., is well adapted to the purpose. In honor of the donor it has been named The Bogardus Engineering Camp.

MRS. S. T. ROBINSON, of Lawrence, Kansas, is offering an opportunity to all women who graduate from the science department of the University of Kansas to do research work in connection with the research table supported by her in the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole.

THE Russian government has decided to establish a new university at Saratoff, and the duty of organizing it has been entrusted to Dr. Rasumowsky, professor of surgery at Kasan.

GOVERNOR DRAPER, of Massachusetts, has appointed Mr. Frederick P. Fish, of Brookline, to be a member of the State Board of Education, to succeed the late Carroll D. Wright. Mr. Fish is a member of the board of overseers of Harvard College and a member of the corporation and executive committee of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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*DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE**THE MISSISSIPPI CHANNEL BOTTOM AND GULF LEVEL*

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The remarkably slight elevation above the sea of the lower flood plains of large rivers like the Mississippi, the Ganges and the Amazon is a matter of frequent comment. The facts are often put rather strikingly by saying that at St. Louis, 1,250 miles by river from the sea, the valley flat is but 400 feet above sea level; at Memphis, 842 miles from the sea, 220 feet; and at Vicksburg, 472 miles from the sea, 90 feet. The same fact is commonly expressed